(b) whether the Government are aware that major demands of the public is to complete the incomplete or pending works like Chopals, Mahila Mandal Buildings, Hostel and School Buildings, Panchayat Ghar, drinking water supply schemes, public conveniences etc. which are lying incomplete for several years on account of paucity of funds with the local bodies and the State Governments and whether Government would like to include the completion as one of the purposes for the use of the funds;

(c) whether repairs of public places as mentioned above which require urgent repairs will also be included in the purposes of the fund, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether unspent funds of past financial year could be utilised during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The guidelines for MPLADS have recently been revised in consultation with the Hon'ble Speaker of the Lok Sabha and leaders of Opposition parties. Completion of incomplete works and normal repairs are not permitted to be taken up under the guidelines.

(d) Funds which have been released to the Collectors under the scheme are non-lapsable.

Job creation

989. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has made any estimate for creating jobs during Eighth and Ninth Plans;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the progress made in this regard; and

(d) the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANGO): (a) and (b) The Planning Commission has estimated that employment is expected to grow at the rate of 2.6% to 2.8% per annum during the Eighth and Ninth Five Year Plans, i.e. during 1992-2002, corresponding to an average annual growth rate of economy 5.6%. In other words, additional employment opportunities of the order of 8.5 million per year, on an average, during the Eighth Plan period and 9.5 million per year, on an average, during the Ninth Plan period are expected to be generated.

(c) During the first three years of the Eighth Plan period, additional employment opportunities of the order of 19.6 million, or 6.5 million per year, are estimated to have been generated, corresponding to an average annual rate of growth of economy of 4.6%.

(d) Statewise break up of these estimates have not been made.

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*WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED & UNSTARRED QUESTIONS SET FOR THE 16TH MARCH, 1995

New drug policy on Siddha and Ayurveda system of medicine

*61. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA:
SHRI S. AUSTIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the new Drug Policy of Government is aimed at improving Siddha and Ayurveda systems of medicine;

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*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, the 16th March, 1995 was adjourned on account of Holi. Answers to Questions put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, the 20th March, 1995.